

THE KNOXVILLE INDEPENDENT

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OF THE COMMON PEOPLE.

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SATURDAY, MARCH 2 1918.

WHOLE NUMBER 1216

WARREN C. KENDALL



Warren C. Kendall of Boston, formerly with the Boston and Maine railroad, who has recently been appointed by Secretary McAdoo to head the car service division of the railroads of the country.

ASSAIL LA FOLLETTE

Wisconsin Senate Votes Censure on U. S. Senator.

Upper Body of Legislature Passes Resolution Condemning Him by 26 to 3—Called Traitor.

Madison, Wis., Feb. 27.—By a vote of 22 to 7 the Wisconsin state senate condemned as disloyal United States Senator Robert M. La Follette's attitude on the war.

A loyalty resolution, originating in the Republican caucus, and which had been passed by the house, was adopted by the senate with an amendment condemning La Follette.

The amended resolution now goes back to the lower chamber and another fight is expected when the matter comes up for consideration next Thursday.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

"The people of the state of Wisconsin always have stood and always will stand squarely behind the present war to a successful end.

"We condemn Senator Robert M. La Follette and all others who have failed to see the righteousness of our nation's cause and have failed to support our government in matters vital to the winning of the war.

"And we denounce any attitude or utterance of theirs which has tended to incite sedition among the people of our country and to injure Wisconsin's fair name before the free peoples of the earth."

Only three members voted against the original loyalty resolution. They were: Huber, Schultz and Zumach.

Those who voted against the amendment condemning La Follette were: Anderson, Clark, Huber, Kuckuk, Schultz, Skogmo, Zumach.

BAER BILL ALLOWED TO DIE

Measure Appropriating \$50,000,000 to Supply Seed to Farmers Killed in Committee.

Washington, Feb. 27.—The Baer bill appropriating \$50,000,000 to supply seed and feed to farmers on credit will be allowed to die in the house agricultural committee. The committee voted finally on whether to report the bill favorably. A tie vote was polled, the deciding vote against the measure being cast by Chairman Lester, who believed with Secretary Houston that such action as is contemplated in the bill is unnecessary.

AMERICANS LEAVE PETROGRAD

Fifty U. S. Citizens Start for Siberia in Special Train—Part of Embassy.

Petrograd, Feb. 27.—A special train left Petrograd for Siberia with fifty Americans, including a part of the embassy and military staffs. There were also forty Japanese and a number of Chinese and Siamese on board. One hundred and two Americans are still in Petrograd, including twenty women and four children.

171 Navy Warrant Officers. Washington, Feb. 27.—Secretary Daniels announced the appointment of 272 more enlisted men of the navy as temporary warrant officers.

Baruch Succeeds Willard. Washington, Feb. 27.—Bernard Baruch has been named to succeed Daniel Willard as chairman of the United States war industries board.

GERMANY FOR WILSON PEACE

Four of President's Principles Accepted if Allies Back Them.

BRITAIN IS IMPERIALISTIC

Von Hertling Tells Reichstag America's Proffer Offers Basis for Discussion on Broad and Liberal Scale.

Washington, Feb. 27.—All talk of a possible "peace by negotiation," has ended in Washington today. Count von Hertling, the imperial German chancellor, in qualifying his "acceptance" of the four principles of peace enunciated by President Wilson, has convinced officialdom here that Germany wants to fight on.

Amsterdam, Feb. 27.—Speaking before the reichstag the imperial German chancellor, Count von Hertling, made this declaration:

"I can fundamentally agree with the four principles which in President Wilson's view must be applied in a mutual exchange of views, and thus declare with President Wilson that a general peace can be discussed on such a basis.

"Only One Reserve." "Only one reserve need be made in this connection: These principles must not only be proposed by the president of the United States, but also must actually be recognized by all states and peoples.

"But this goal has not yet been reached. There is still no court of arbitration established by all nations for the preservation of peace in the name of justice.

"When President Wilson incidentally says that the German chancellor is speaking to the tribunal of the entire world, I consider this statement as a prejudiced, joyfully as I would greet it if an impartial court of arbitration existed, and gladly as I would co-operate to realize such ideals.

"England Imperialistic."

"Unfortunately, however, there is no trace of similar statements on the part of the leading powers of the entente. England's war aims are still thoroughly imperialistic, and she wants to impose on the world a peace according to England's good pleasure.

"When England talks about the people's right of self-determination she does not think of applying the principle to Ireland, Egypt and India.

Wilson Message "a Step."

"It has been repeatedly said that we do not contemplate retaining Belgium, but that we must be safeguarded from the danger of a country, with which we desire after the war to live in peace and friendship, becoming the object of jumping-off ground of enemy machinations.

"If therefore, a proposal came from the opposing side—for example, from the government in Havre—we should not adopt an antagonistic attitude, even though the discussion at first might only be unbinding.

"Meanwhile I readily admit that President Wilson's message of February 11 constitutes perhaps a small step toward a mutual rapprochement."

Wants Discussion.

With reference to a statement recently made by Walter Runciman, the former president of the board of agriculture in the British cabinet, the chancellor said:

"I can only agree with Mr. Runciman if he meant that we should be much nearer peace if proper responsible representatives of the belligerent powers would meet in conclave for discussion.

"That would be a way to remove all intentional and unintentional misunderstandings and bring about an agreement on many individual questions. I am thinking especially in this connection of Belgium."

GERMAN PLANES BOMB VENICE

Drop Thirty Shells There, Thirty on Mestre and Five on Castelfranco.

Rome, Feb. 27.—During air raids at night, a semi-official announcement says, enemy airplanes dropped 27 bombs on inhabited places at Venice, 30 on Mestre and five on Castelfranco. Two persons were killed and nine injured at Venice and three were killed at Mestre. All were civilians. The material damage was slight.

Slayer of Boy is Hanged.

Portage La Prairie, Man., Feb. 27.—Thomas Fletcher, a farm hand, was hanged in the jail yard here at seven o'clock this morning for the murder of ten year-old Gordon Rasmussen, a fellow employee, at Cranberry, Man., last summer.



GEN. FOCH SAYS GERMANS WON'T BREAK THROUGH

French Leader Asserts Enemy Is Weaker in Guns, in Aircraft and Morale.

DOES NOT FEAR A DRIVE

Declares the Allies Know Mostly Everything the Teutons Do—They Have No New Gases and Limited Number of Tanks.

Chicago, Feb. 27.—I went to the fountain source for information and reassurance on the German offensive, the Paris Correspondent.

General Foch received me in his office in the Boulevard Invalides and frankly answered all my questions, which covered the larger phases of the greatest menace that has ever confronted mankind. My first question was:

"What is the chance of the Germans being able to break through?"

Before answering General Foch took a few puffs at his two-cent cigar and looked at me with a smile of quiet confidence in his bright brown eyes.

"They Won't!"

"They won't break through," he said, and the words were as percussive as pistol shots. "They tried that at Marne. They then had troops of the first quality, while we were unprepared. They failed. They tried at Lassigny in October, 1914, and at Arras. Again, on the Yser and at Ypres they made very strong attacks, which they repeated. They failed everywhere in their attempt to break through.

"Again the following April, at what is known as the second Ypres, they attacked, this time using gas against which we had not then the protection of masks. They gained three miles, but were unable to break through.

"Finally, at Verdun, in 1916, they made a great effort. Their artillery was much superior to ours. This attempt began in February and lasted till July. It was a failure.

"In view of all those attempts, under conditions favorable to the enemy, we are justified in the confidence we now feel. The advantages now all lie with us. We are better organized and our preparation is better. All the dispositions are better. (General Foch used the French word "repartition" to convey the idea of the uniformity, balance and completeness of the allied preparation).

"Our reserves can be handled more effectively and there are relatively more of them than at any time in the past. We are strong in guns, munitions and airplanes. Our artillery superiority to the enemy is incontestable. Finally, our morale is better than ever. On the other hand, the German troops have deteriorated since 1914.

"Wait Without Anxiety."

"In view of all these things we wait for them without anxiety."

"Is it possible that they have invented new gases that our masks will furnish no protection against?" I asked.

"No," replied General Foch. "We know mostly everything they do and remember in 1915 we had no masks at all and we stood up against their gas."

"What about the tanks?"

"They'll have them, but not too many for us to deal with. This is a department in which we have all the advantages of knowledge and experience."

A French rope maker slept 77 days and thought it was but a few hours.

SOLDIER IS FOUND DEAD

Private Clyde E. Scott of Battery C, One Hundred and Twenty-third Artillery, Killed at Houston.

Camp Logan, Houston, Tex., Feb. 27.—Private Clyde E. Scott of Battery C, One Hundred and Twenty-third artillery, was found murdered in the warehouse section of this city. His body was found by a driver for a storage company. The skull of the soldier was crushed.

GERMAN GRAND DUKE SUICIDE

Mecklenburg-Strelitz Found in Lake, Gunshot Wound in Breast, Says Dispatch.

Amsterdam, Feb. 27.—The grand duke of Mecklenburg-Strelitz, whose death was announced in a dispatch from Neu-Strelitz, committed suicide, according to the Berlin Lokal Anzeiger. His body was found in a small lake with a gunshot wound in the chest.

SPAIN LOSE IN SPAIN

Premier Maura Defeated, Well-Known Germanophile Elected—Great Surprise.

Madrid, Feb. 27.—The election returns are still incomplete, indications, however, pointing to the defeat of the socialists and radicals.

Five monarchists, three radicals and several socialists have been elected in Madrid, including Antonio Maura, premier, and leader of the conservative party.

Gabriel Maura, son of the conservative leader, was defeated. The election of Benevento, who is a dramatist and well-known Germanophile, caused great surprise.

BRITISH SHIP IS TORPEDOED

Steamer Philadelphia, Owned by the Leyland Line, Sent Down by Submarine.

New York, Feb. 27.—The British steamship Philadelphia of 5,120 gross tons, owned by the Leyland Line, has been sunk by a submarine. It left here with cargo for British ports on February 11 and was torpedoed about February 21.

JAIL HUN IN SUGAR DELAY PLOT

Havana, Feb. 27.—Julius Messer, a German mining engineer of Santiago de Cuba, was arrested by federal officers and interned in the Cabanas fortress, charged with espionage and propaganda among laborers in an effort to interrupt the handling of the sugar crop.

RUSSIANS RECAPTURE PSKOV

Offer Desperate Resistance to Invaders, London Hears—Bloody Fighting in Streets.

London, Feb. 27.—Bolshevik troops have retaken Pskov, which was occupied by the Germans Monday, says a report to the Exchange Telegraph company from Petrograd. Russians of the red guard are offering desperate resistance to the Germans everywhere, the report adds. Bloody fighting is in progress in the streets of Pskov.

GERMAN RAID FALLS

London, Feb. 27.—South of the Arras-Cambrai road the Germans tried to raid a British trench, but were dispersed, the war office stated.

Union City.—A city ordinance taking the power of school elections from the school directors and placing it equally with the directors and the board of mayor and aldermen, is in effect here.

Paris.—W. L. Pryor, a prominent citizen of Henry county, was hit and instantly killed by an L. & N. train several miles from Paris. Mr. Pryor was 90 years of age and for a long time has been a leading figure in the county.

RAIN SHELLS AND GAS ON U. S. MEN

Germans Start Drive on the American Line Northwest of Toul; Duel Intense.

YANKEE RESPONSE EFFECTIVE

Heavy Raids Increase All Along West Front, With Heavy Artillery Activity Everywhere—Raid Volunteers Eager for Action.

With the American Army in France, Feb. 27.—The artillery conflict in the American sector northwest of Toul grows more intense daily. The Germans fired a hundred or more shells in the last 24 hours and late in the evening began to bombard violently some of the American batteries with gas and high explosive shells.

The American artillery has replied constantly, doing most effective work against the enemy front line trenches, his battery positions and wire entanglements. Numerous working parties of the enemy also were shelled. Beyond observation by balloons there has been no aerial activity owing to the low clouds and rain.

American machine guns last night and this morning fired many thousand rounds on the rear of German positions, where marked movement of men and material progresses. The enemy tried unsuccessfully to hinder the American patrol work by hurling new and powerful flares into the American wire entanglements.

Details of the Franco-American raid in the Chemin des Dames Saturday show that 26 picked American soldiers participated, after every member of their battalion had volunteered.

First Action Behind Barrage.

The Americans moved forward eagerly to the attack behind a barrage fire, the first time this has been done by our troops. Some of the Americans made captures and others chased Prussian troops through the trenches as far as 750 meters (about 2,400 feet), going beyond the objectives sought.

The raid had been planned carefully and rehearsals were held the day before. The barrage fire began at 5:30 o'clock in the morning and continued until 6:35, guns of all caliber taking part.

The Americans among the 100 in the attacking party were surprised at the precision with which the French shells fell and went a little faster than they should have and were within 30 yards of the dropping shells when they reached the enemy's lines. Relief had just been completed in the German trenches and officers were making the rounds. The Germans took shelter in a dugout roofed with rails and sandbags. A French shell made a direct hit and the enemy scattered about the trench. At the same moment the American and French jumped in.

Take Entire Party of Enemy.

There was some hand-to-hand fighting, but the entire enemy party at this point was captured. The raiders chased the enemy out of other shelters and along communicating trenches without catching any. There was some criticism of the fact that the Americans were so enthusiastic that they went beyond the objectives.

The raiders and prisoners started back across No Man's Land on schedule time, but were caught in a German counter-barrage. One enemy shell wounded five Germans and six Frenchmen but no Americans.

The prisoners were from sixteen to forty years old. All apparently were undernourished, but said that food was plentiful in the trenches. The similarity of their stories, however, aroused suspicions. Most of the prisoners formerly worked in factories.

JAPS TO CURB RUSSIAN REDS

Situation in Siberia Considered Extremely Grave—Cossack General Loses Control of Territory.

Harbin, Feb. 27.—The Japanese, according to reliable authority, intend to take action in Siberia at an early date, and there are evidences that the Japanese have long been preparing to carry out this move.

The situation in Siberia is considered extremely grave, owing to the inability of the Cossack general, Semenov, head of the antibolshevik movement in that vast territory, to secure allied support for which he has appealed to the Japanese.

GERMANS IN VOLHYNIA TOWN

General Linsinger's Forces Capture the Town of Kolenkowitz, Berlin Reports.

Berlin, Feb. 27.—General Linsinger's forces operating in Volhynia have captured the town of Kolenkowitz after a battle, the German general staff announced.

GENERAL AVARESCU



General Avarescu, who has been appointed head of the newly formed Roumanian cabinet, is one of that country's most famous soldiers. He is said to be in favor of making peace with the central powers.

FRENCH RAIDS FIERCE

Trench Attacks Increase With Intensity Along Whole Front.

Hundreds of Prisoners Taken While Artillery Throws Unheard Of Quantities of Shells.

French Grand Headquarters, Feb. 27.—Trench raids along the French front have increased in intensity during the last month to such an extent that they have become, in some instances, battles in which thousands of men have been engaged and hundreds of prisoners taken. The artillery is throwing unheard of quantities of shells.

The objects of the raids vary widely. Sometimes a raid is undertaken in order to identify enemy units, and at other times to improve the lines or capture observation points.

Again a raid may be made to destroy the enemy's works and prevent him from attacking. This was the case in Saturday's raid at Aspach, Alsace, where the Germans were in strongly fortified lines which they had held since December, 1914.

The enemy positions were bombarded beyond recognition and placed in such condition as to hinder German operations. The correspondent watched the shower of metal tearing away the wire entanglements, flattening the gun emplacements and setting fire to the enemy ammunition dumps.

Nearly everywhere the enemy front lines are held lightly, and the main bodies of troops are kept so far in the rear that occasionally the French have reached the third and even the fourth line with slight resistance.

FORM NATIONAL "DRY" BODY

William Jennings Bryan and Other Leaders Organize Inclusive Federation.

New York, Feb. 27.—William Jennings Bryan and other prominent temperance leaders from all parts of the country formed, at a meeting here, a federation of the majority of the agencies which are working in behalf of countrywide prohibition, under the name of the National Dry federation. Dr. Charles Scanlon of Pittsburgh was elected president. The delegates were said to represent 25,000,000 persons.

ROYAL ARCANUM IS SOLVENT

Insurance Investigators Declare the Charges Against Massachusetts Society Unfounded.

Boston, Feb. 27.—The Royal Arcanum society of Massachusetts, which has been a subject of litigation during the last few years, is declared 99 per cent solvent by the insurance commissioners of this state, New York, and Connecticut, in a report issued by Frank Hardison, commissioner of Massachusetts.

NO GERMAN PEACE REPLY

Lenine and Trotsky Inquire When Answer to Russian Acceptance of Teuton Terms.

London, Feb. 27.—An official Russian statement sent out by wireless announced that no reply had been received from Germany to the Russian communication accepting the German peace conditions. The announcement, which was signed by Premier Lenine and Foreign Minister Trotsky, again inquired when a reply would be given and hostilities cease.